

detached themselves from the leaves and were easily netted. Initial observation with a hand lens indicated that they could well be a *Sorhagenia* species.

The problem now was to ascertain the species involved. The feeding method and the time of year that the larvae had been observed indicated that *Sorhagenia janiszewskae* Riedl was the most likely candidate. However, a check in Emmet (1988. *A Field Guide to the Smaller British Lepidoptera*), gave *Frangula* as the only listed foodplant, although *Rhamnus* is given as an occasional additional foodplant in *The Moths and Butterflies of Great Britain and Ireland* Vol. 4 (in preparation). At the request of JRL, RMP prepared a genitalia slide which was subsequently checked by John and found to be a female *Sorhagenia janiszewskae*.

Data maps initially produced by Maitland Emmet and now held and recently updated by JRL showed this to be a species of southern English counties with the most northerly records known, prior to our findings, being from Berkshire and South Essex. Our data suggest a considerable extension of the range of this species in Britain, and indicate that it would be well worth searching for in suitable parts of the Midlands and southern parts of north-west England.

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#### **A further late record of the Mother of Pearl *Pleuroptya ruralis* (Scop.) (Lep.: Pyralidae)**

We read with interest the note in the last issue of this journal (*antea*: 2), by Tony Steel concerning a late record of the Mother of Pearl *Pleuroptya ruralis* caught on 21 October 2000 in Kent. This brought to mind a similar sighting by us last year. From 30 September until 7 October, we stayed on the Lizard Peninsula in Cornwall at Higher Predannack above Mullion Cove. The week saw many good migrants gracing our traps including large numbers of White-speck *Mythimna unipuncta*, Delicate *Mythimna vitellina* and a single *Palpita unionalis*. On the morning of the 5 October we were very surprised to find a pristine Mother of Pearl *Pleuroptya ruralis* in our traps. Given the number of migrants recorded during the week it seems likely that the individual concerned was a migrant moth. — JON CLIFTON, Kestrel Cottage, Station Road, Hindolveston, Norfolk NR20 5DE (E-mail: jon.clifton@btinternet.com) and ADRIAN WANDER, 54A Hartford Road, Davenham, Northwich, Cheshire CW9 8JF.